

*File FAC Building
Exhibit*

13 January 1958

Honorable F. Moran McConihe
Commissioner of Public
Buildings Service
General Services Administration
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. McConihe:

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts were glad to meet on 19 December 1957 with Mr. L. L. Hunter of your office and with Mr. Max Abramovitz of the architectural firm of Harrison and Abramovitz to discuss the architectural design of the proposed building for the Central Intelligence Agency that is to be erected at Langley, Virginia.

The use of a scale model of the building greatly facilitated the study of the design. The care and competence with which the model had been prepared was commented on. The architectural design was approved as presented. Special note was taken of the way the building had been related to the site and of the way that works of art had been used to accent the architecture and planting.

The members of the Commission will be glad to confer with you further as the various parts of the design are developed.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,



L.R. Wilson
Secretary

*file FHC
Building Photographs*

19 December 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting of Fine Arts Commission
19 December 1957.

1. At Mr. W. K. Harrison's request arrangements were made yesterday for the presentation of the detailed model of our new headquarters building to the Fine Arts Commission.

2. It appeared to me that all members of the Commission were present except Mr. Harrison. In addition the following were present when the model was being considered:

Mr. Abramovitz
Mr. Cropster
Mr. L. L. Hunter

Harrison and Abramovitz
"
Public Buildings Service
Central Intelligence Agency

3. Mr. Abramovitz made the presentation for Harrison and Abramovitz. The members of the Commission studied the model with keen attention and were extremely enthusiastic about it. One member remarked that it was the most outstanding architecture that had been presented to the Commission "certainly within the last two years".

4. Of particular concern to us is a comment made by another member expressing admiration for the clean lines of the roof and the hope that nothing would be done to mar the effect. Mr. Hunter strongly endorsed this sentiment and commented that there was a little problem now under consideration that involved a small penthouse not shown on the model. (This, of course, is the penthouse for the Director of Central Intelligence's elevator.) Commission members generally expressed the hope that no such penthouse be erected.

5. The overall reaction of the Commission was one of enthusiastic approval. Mr. Hunter said after we left the meeting that he had never known the Commission members to react as favorably as they did in this case. STATINTL

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OL/DRS/ [redacted] (19 Dec 57)

[redacted]
Management Assistant
Building Planning Staff